

SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT FACT SHEET

Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Bureau of Substance Abuse Services

This fact sheet contains information about the impact of alcohol and other drug use in the Tenth Bristol Representative District. Admission data were reported to the Bureau of Substance Abuse Services (BSAS) Substance Abuse Management Information System in FY 2003.

Residents of Tenth Bristol Representative District

Characteristics of Admissions

In FY 2003, there were 115,896 admissions to licensed substance abuse treatment services in all of Massachusetts; less than one percent (490) of these admissions reside in the Tenth Bristol Representative District.¹ **Please note that these statistics represent only individual admissions, and represent a figure lower than the actual number of constituents in need of treatment services.** In FY 2003, admissions to substance abuse treatment services from the Tenth Bristol Representative District reported the following characteristics:

- 73% were male and 27% were female.
- 62% were between the ages of 21-39.
- 91% were white non-Latino, 1% were black non-Latino, 4% were Latino, and 4% were other racial categories.
- 58% were never married, 18% were married, and 24% reported not to be married now.
- 24% had less than high school education, 51% completed high school, and 25% had more than high school education.
- 32% were employed.
- 6% were homeless.
- 29% had prior mental health treatment.

Primary Substance of Use

At admission clients also identify a “primary drug” of use that is the substance for which the client is seeking treatment. Table 1 compares the proportional distribution of primary drugs in Massachusetts with that for the Tenth Bristol Representative District.

Table 1					
Primary Drug by District and State FY 2003					
	Alcohol	Heroin	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack
District	45 %	42%	3%	4%	1%
State	43%	38%	6%	4%	4 %

Substances Used in Past Year

Upon entering treatment, each client is asked to report ALL substances used in the past year (12 months) prior to admission. Admissions frequently report using more than one substance within the year. The use of more than one psychoactive substance, such as alcohol and marijuana, is referred to as ‘polydrug’ or ‘polysubstance’ use.

¹ To protect client confidentiality, statistics representing clients under 17 years of age have been omitted from this fact sheet.

Table 2 shows ALL substances which clients reported using in the year prior to admission, as well as the prevalence of injection drug users (or IDU's), individuals who use a needle to ingest cocaine, crack, heroin or another drug to get high.

Table 2 Annual Admissions by Substance Used: FY 1995 – FY 2003							
Tenth Bristol Representative District							
	Total	Alcohol	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack	Heroin	IDU
FY '95	382	329	121	119	50	97	60
FY '96	363	323	128	102	28	61	46
FY '97	445	376	129	118	38	93	71
FY '98	508	418	134	125	31	167	134
FY '99	556	461	165	134	27	166	122
FY '00	527	419	175	162	59	189	134
FY '01	557	427	168	143	57	195	139
FY '02	617	443	167	168	44	265	171
FY '03	490	339	132	153	45	230	155

Heroin and Injection Drug Use

Figure 1 below shows the proportional increases in all admissions in the Tenth Bristol Representative District and the proportional increase in admissions reporting heroin and injection drug use, a factor driving increases in HIV.

